designing of a rainfall insurance product requires historical crop yield and rainfall data. The National Insurance Academy collected rainfall data for 300 rain gauge stations. However, being a new product, it was decided to implement Varsha Bima Yojana in 130 IMD rain gauge stations only.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The all India coverage of the scheme is not feasible due to the unavailability of historical rainfall data and unsuitability of the scheme for some areas.

Collection of Education Cess

2858. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total collection from the 2 per cent Education Cess on all Central taxes during 2004-05 and how much of it had gone into the fund for elementary education;

(b) how much of it was utilized on various education related schemes and financing schemes aimed at universal access to education; and

(c) how far the public education expenditure has reached the target of 6 per cent of GDP as contemplated under the Common Minimum Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sixth Pay Commission

2859. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH:
SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Action Council of Government Employees put forward any request to revise their pay and allowances by appointing Sixth Pay Commission; and